MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) The total stock of salt in all the factories till the end of 1118 Thai Pani was about 25,53,160 maunds.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

*Work of the State Rice Officer (Mr. S. Rangaswami Aiyangar) at Tanjore.*

40 *MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: (*Tiruvella*): Will the Government be pleased to state the nature of work which the State Rice Officer (Mr. S. Rangaswami Aiyangar) was doing at Tanjore in the months of Meenam and Medom 1118?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: The State Rice Officer (*Mr. S. Rangaswami Aiyangar*) was engaged in the inspection and despatch of the rice which was supplied to the State from Tanjore area by the Grain Purchase Officer, Tanjore.

MR. M. R. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether the officer is still in the same place, doing the same work?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: He has gone from Tanjore to Trichinopoly.

*Export of Agricultural products such as yams, banana etc.*

41 *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN; Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the export of banana, pumpkins and yams such as chena, chembu and kachil from Travancore to other places has been prohibited; and

(*b*) if so, the date of such prohibition?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) No.

(*b*) in view of the answer to part (*a*) this does not arise.

*Export of Sago.*

42 *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the export of sago prepared out of tapioca flour from Travancore to other places has been prohibited; and

(*b*) if so, the date of such prohibition?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) Possessing of tapioca powder is prohibited under Government Notification ROC. No. 2133-1/42/CFS., dated 18th November 1942 and export of tapioca in any form except under permits is also prohibited under Government Notification ROC. No. 2133/42/CFS., dated 25th October 1942.

(*b*) Please refer to answer to part (*a*).

*The price of Coir and its products.*

43 *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether a Board of Control has been established; and

(*b*) if so, the nature and extent of the work intended to be done by such a Board?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: (*a*) A Trade Committee has been established.

(*b*) The member is referred to the Press Note, dated the 13th December 1943, vide copy placed on the table.

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## Appendix I.

*Vide* **Answer to Question No. 43.**

### PRESS NOTE.

The Supply Department of the Government of India and the Governments of Travancore and Cochin have, in mutual consultation formulated a scheme which, while ensuring supplies of coir and coir products at reasonable prices to the Supply Department for war purposes, will regulate production and supply of coir and coir articles in the Travancore and Cochin States and help the coir industry out of the depression caused by the loss of its export markets. Orders for coir products which may probably amount in value to Rs. 44 lakhs will be available with the Supply Department up to the end of the year 1944. In addition to these demands, all demands received from His Majesty's Government and other overseas indentors will be included in this scheme. 10 per cent. of the demands for coir products will be reserved to British India and the balance will be placed with the Travancore Government who would work in collaboration with the Government of Cochin regarding allocation of orders as between the two States. Ceiling prices to be in operation up to the end of 1944 have already been fixed for certain varieties of coir yarn; prices for other varieties will have to be in parity with these prices. The price basis for manufactured products will be worked out with reference to the ceiling prices, and the cost of production of selected firms. In order to work this scheme a Trade Committee is being established with the following gentlemen as members to represent the Travancore Government and the coir interests in the Travancore State.

1. Mr. C. Kumara Das, (*Secretary to Government*).
2. „ E. L. Pollard.
3. „ K. C. Karunakaran.
4. „ M. L. Janardhanan Pillai.
5. „ H. Smith.
6. „ N. M. Mahommad Abdul Kadir.
7. „ K. V. Nanoo.

One representative of the Cochin Government and two representatives of the Coir interests in that State will be nominated by that Government. Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., LL. D., Dewan of Travancore will be the Chairman of the Committee. The first meeting of the Committee will be held at Alleppey on the 16th December 1943.

Huzur Cutcherry, (Sd.) L. G. PEREIRA,

Trivandrum, 13th Dec. 1943. *Assistant Secretary to Government.*

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